Application/Control Number: 10/552,431

Art Unit: 3652

## After-Final Amendment

Applicants Oct. 2, 2009 after-final amendment has been entered and made of record.

## EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John M. White on Oct. 14, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 14, line 9: "lower edge of said stack;" has been rewritten as —lower edge of said stack; wherein the aligning element further comprises a pair of aligning elements wherein each said aligning element has a vertically oriented face and a horizontal surface portion adjacent the face and generally level with an upper surface of the transport substrate;—

Claim 19, line 16: "engageable under the stack" has been rewritten as — engageable under the stack; wherein the aligning element further comprises a pair of aligning elements wherein each said aligning element has a vertically oriented face and a horizontal surface portion adjacent the face and generally level with an upper surface of the transport substrate;—

Claim 20 has been cancelled.

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Claim 21: "the steps of: pressing" has been rewritten as:

--the steps of:

providing a pair of aligning elements wherein each said aligning element has a vertically oriented face and a horizontal surface portion adjacent the face and generally level with an upper surface of the transport substrate:

pressing--.

Cancel claim 26.

## Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: In combination with Applicants Oct. 2009 arguments novelty is predicated upon a slip-preventing faces which act to push an entire stack of flexible sheets relative to a transport thereby centering said stack without bending. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

## Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GREGORY W. ADAMS whose telephone number is (571)272-8101. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 8:30am-5pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saul Rodriguez can be reached on (571) 272-7097. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Gregory W Adams/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3652